

REMARKS

In the Official Action, the Examiner required an election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: a. Species I: Fig. 21A, directed to the user device receiving the secure container comparing the template, classified in class 726, subclass 17. The claims belonging to this embodiment are claims 6-7, 20-21 and 28.

b. Species II: Fig. 21B, directed to the service provider comparing the template, belonging in class 726, subclass 4. The claims belonging to this embodiment are 4-5 and 18-19.

Group II: a. Species I: Fig. 19, directed to acquiring the identification certificate from an identification authority, classified in class 726, subclass 10. The claims belonging to this embodiment are claims 9 and 23.

b. Species II: Fig. 24, directed to pre-storing the identification certificate in the device that performs the authentication, classified in class 726, subclass 18. The claims belonging to this embodiment are claims 8 and 22.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute the claims of Group I, Species I. Accordingly, Claims 4-5 and 18-19 in Group I, Species II, claims 9 and 23 in Group II, Species I, and claims 8 and 22 in Group II, Species II have been withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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